

LISTING OF CLAIMS. This listing replaces all prior listing of claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable filtration bag for a floor care appliance, comprising a closed receptacle for collecting dirt particles and having an inlet opening for allowing a dirt laden airstream to enter, said receptacle being formed from a composite sheet comprised of at least one layer of expanded polytetrafluoroethylene and at least one substrate layer selected from a material of synthetic or natural fibers, wherein the synthetic fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyester, polyolefin, and nylon and wherein natural fibers is selected from the group consisting of cellulose and cotton, and wherein the disposable filtration bag is essentially free of bonded material on the side of the expanded polytetrafluoroethylene opposite that of the substrate layer.

Claims 2-4 Cancelled

5. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 1, wherein said closed receptacle further includes: a front panel portion; a rear panel portion comprised of a first rear panel portion and a second rear panel portion joined together with a seam; wherein said front panel portion and said rear panel portion each respectively have a top end and a bottom end and said respective top ends and said bottom ends are sealed together by folding and an adhesive.
6. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 5, wherein said closed receptacle further includes a pair of opposing pleated sidewalls joining said front sidewall and said rear sidewall together along the opposing lateral sides.
7. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 6, wherein said pair of pleated sidewalls each are comprised of at least one pleat.

8. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 1, wherein said closed receptacle further includes: a front panel portion; a rear panel portion comprised of a first rear panel portion and a second rear panel portion joined together with a seam; wherein said front panel portion and said rear panel portion each respectively have a top end and a bottom end and said respective top ends and said bottom ends are sealed together by a seam.

9. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 8, wherein the seam sealing said first and second rear panel portions and said seams sealing the respective top ends and said bottom ends of said front and rear panels portions is formed by an adhesive.

10. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 8, wherein the seam sealing said first and second rear panel portions and said seams sealing the respective top ends and said bottom ends of said front and rear panels portions is formed by sewing.

11. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 8, wherein the seam sealing said first and second rear panel portions and said seams sealing the respective top ends and said bottom ends of said front and rear panels portions is formed by thermal bonding.

12. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 8, wherein said closed receptacle is square in shape.

13. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 8, wherein said closed receptacle is rectangular in shape.

14. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 1, wherein said closed receptacle further includes: a front panel portion; a rear panel portion; wherein said front panel portion and said rear panel portion each have a top and opposing longitudinal edges and said respective top and opposing longitudinal edges are sealed together with a seam.

15. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 14, wherein said closed receptacle is square

in shape.

16. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 14, wherein said closed receptacle is rectangular in shape.

17. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 16, wherein the seams sealing said top and opposing longitudinal edges of said front and rear panels are formed by an adhesive.

18. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 14, wherein the seams sealing said top and opposing longitudinal edges of said front and rear panels are formed by sewing.

19. (Original) The filtration bag of claim 14, wherein the seams sealing said top and opposing longitudinal edges of said front and rear panels are formed by thermal bonding.

Claims 20- 64 Cancelled

65. (Currently Amended) A disposable filtration bag for a floor care appliance, comprising a closed receptacle for collecting dirt particles and having an inlet opening for allowing a dirt laden airstream to enter, said receptacle having an inner and an outer layer and being formed from a composite sheet consisting essentially of:

- i. at least one layer of a filtration media for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger or expanded polytetrafluoroethylene; and
- ii. a substrate layer selected from a material of synthetic or natural fibers

so that layer (i) for the receptacle of the disposable bag is the inner layer and the substrate layer (ii) is the outer layer of the receptacle of the disposable bag.

66. (Previously Submitted) The disposable filtration bag of claim 65 wherein the synthetic fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyester, polyolefin, and nylon and the natural fibers are selected from the group consisting of cellulose and cotton.
67. (Previously Submitted) The disposable filtration bag of claim 65, wherein said closed receptacle has the composite sheet arranged into a front panel portion; a rear panel portion comprised of a first rear panel portion and a second rear panel portion joined together with a seam; wherein said front panel portion and said rear panel portion each respectively have a top end and a bottom end and said respective top ends and said respective bottom ends are each secured together with a seal selected from a) folding and an adhesive, 2) an adhesive seam, 3) a sewn seam, or 4) thermal bonding.
68. (Previously Submitted) The disposable filtration bag of claim 67, wherein said closed receptacle further includes a pair of opposing pleated sidewalls joining said front sidewall and said rear sidewall together along the opposing lateral sides, wherein said pair of pleated sidewalls each are comprised of at least one pleat.
69. (Previously Submitted) The disposable filtration bag of claim 67, wherein the seam between the first rear and second rear portions of the closed receptacle is formed by an adhesive or by sewing or by thermal bonding.
70. (Previously Submitted) The disposable filtration bag of claim 65, wherein said closed receptacle has a shape selected from a square or a rectangle.
71. (Currently Amended) The disposable filtration bag of claim 65, wherein said closed receptacle has a front panel portion; a rear panel portion; wherein said front panel portion and said rear panel portion each have a top and opposing longitudinal edges and said respective top and opposing longitudinal edges are secured together with a seam selected from an adhesive, sewn seam or thermal

bonding to give the closed receptacle a square or rectangular shape for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger at a flow speed of 60 cubic feet per minute.

72. (Previously Submitted) The disposable filtration bag of claim 65, wherein layer (i) filters 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger at a flow speed of 60 cubic feet per minute.

73. (Previously Submitted) A method of making a disposable filtration bag of claim 65 for a floor care appliance, comprised of the steps of:

- a. providing a sheet of composite material consisting essentially of (i) at least one layer of a filtration media for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or expanded polytetrafluoroethylene, and (ii) one layer selected from a material of synthetic or natural fibers;
- b. folding said sheet of composite material;
- c. sealing together respective edges of a first and second rear panel portion of said folded sheet by a seam;
- d. sealing together respective top edges and bottom edges by a seam to form the closed receptacle with an inner layer of (i) and an outer substrate layer (ii); and
- e. providing an aperture in a front sidewall of said receptacle wherein a dirt laden airstream may enter.

74. (Previously Submitted) The method of making a disposable filtration bag for a floor care appliance of claim 73, further including one pleated sidewall separating each of said front and rear panel portions along opposing longitudinal edges of said front and rear panel portions, wherein said pleated sidewalls includes at least one pleat.

75. (Previously Submitted) The method of making a disposable filtration bag of claim 65 comprised of the steps of:

- a. providing a sheet of composite material;
- b. folding said sheet of composite material;
- c. sealing together respective top edges of a front and rear panel portion of said receptacle by a seam;
- d. sealing together respective opposing longitudinal edges of a said front and rear panel portions of said receptacle by a seam; and
- e. providing an aperture in a front sidewall of said receptacle wherein a dirt laden airstream may enter.

76. (Previously Submitted) A floor care appliance, comprised of: a suction nozzle; a motor-fan assembly; and the disposable filtration bag of Claim 65. .

77. (Previously Submitted) The floor care appliance of Claim 76 that is a vacuum cleaner.

78. (Currently Amended) In a disposable filtration bag for a floor care appliance, the improvement comprising a closed receptacle for collecting dirt particles and having an inlet opening for allowing a dirt laden airstream to enter, wherein said receptacle has an inner and an outer layer and is formed from a composite sheet consisting essentially of:

- i. at least one layer of a filtration media for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger or expanded polytetrafluoroethylene; and
- ii. a substrate layer selected from a material of synthetic or natural fibers

so that layer (i) for the receptacle of the disposable bag is the inner layer and the substrate layer (ii) is the outer layer of the receptacle of the disposable bag.

79. (New) The disposable filtration bag of claim 67, wherein said closed receptacle of the composite sheet arranged into a front panel portion and two rear panel portions joined with seams for the two rear portions and the top end and bottom

end from the folding over of the composite sheet on itself with the expanded polytetrafluoroethylene as the inside layer configured for the closed receptacle to have a square or rectangular shape essentially free of folds or sidewalls for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger at a flow speed of 60 cubic feet per minute.

80. (New) A disposable filtration bag for a floor care appliance, comprising a closed receptacle for collecting dirt particles and having an inlet opening for allowing a dirt laden airstream to enter, said receptacle having an inner and an outer layer and being formed from a composite sheet consisting essentially of:

- i. at least one layer of a filtration media for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger or expanded polytetrafluoroethylene; and
- ii. a substrate layer selected from a material of synthetic or natural fibers

so that layer (i) for the receptacle of the disposable bag is the inner layer and the substrate layer (ii) is the outer layer of the receptacle of the disposable bag; wherein said closed receptacle has the composite sheet arranged into a front panel portion; a rear panel portion comprised of a first rear panel portion and a second rear panel portion joined together with a seam; wherein said front panel portion and said rear panel portion each respectively have a top end and a bottom end and said respective top ends and said respective bottom ends are each secured together with a seal selected from a) folding and an adhesive, 2) an adhesive seam, 3) a sewn seam, or 4) thermal bonding to have a square or a rectangular shape for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger at a flow speed of 60 cubic feet per minute.

81. (New) Method of cleaning a floor with a floor care appliance, comprising:
a) placing a disposable filtration bag into a vacuum cleaning floor care appliance wherein the disposable filtration bag for a floor care appliance, comprising a closed receptacle for collecting dirt particles and having an inlet opening for

allowing a dirt laden airstream to enter, said receptacle having an inner and an outer layer and being formed from a composite sheet consisting essentially of:

- i. at least one layer of a filtration media for filtering 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger or expanded polytetrafluoroethylene; and
- ii. a substrate layer selected from a material of synthetic or natural fibers

so that layer (i) for the receptacle of the disposable bag is the inner layer and the substrate layer (ii) is the outer layer of the receptacle of the disposable bag;

b) cleaning the floor with the floor cleaning appliance; and

c) removing the disposable bag from the floor care appliance when the filtration bay is full and filters less than 99.7% of particles 0.3 microns or larger at a flow speed of 60 cubic feet per minute; and

d) disposing of the removed disposable bag.